

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. HIRONO

Ms. HIRONO. I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. For preventive measures authorized under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) and the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.), including research, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, rehabilitation of existing structures, and changes in use of land, there is hereby appropriated, and the amount otherwise provided by this Act for "Agricultural Programs—Agriculture Buildings and Facilities and Rental Payments" is reduced by, \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in support of my amendment to restore \$3 million in funding for the Watershed and Flood Protection program. Funding for this program was eliminated in fiscal year 2011, and no funding is provided in this bill.

My amendment provides \$3 million for this program, just 10 percent of the \$30 million provided in fiscal year 2010. I am taking funding from the agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments to offset the cost of my amendment. Under my amendment, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS, would make the determination on where to direct the funds.

The Watershed and Flood Control Program provides for cooperation between the Federal Government, States, and localities to prevent erosion, flood water, and sediment damage. This is also a vital program to further the development, utilization, and disposal of water. It also helps to further the conservation and utilization of land and authorized watersheds.

Watershed improvements under this program are cost-shared between the Federal Government and local governments. I think that's a good thing. The program is being zeroed out despite the fact that we have an unfunded Federal commitment of more than \$1 billion for 297 cost-shared projects in 39 States, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These projects would help to reduce flood damage in 320 communities, improve agriculture water supply in 80 communities, and improve water quality in 132 streams.

Clearly, the national reach of this program is apparent from the numbers I just cited. In fact, I have a list of the 41 States and the Pacific islands that have been helped by this program, including Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas—the list goes on.

States and the local governments have worked together with NRCS, and they put up their own funds to construct flood control and water develop-

ment projects. I don't think it is fair to leave these local governments holding the bag while the Federal Government just walks away from these commitments. Even shutting down projects of course costs money, and we can't leave them just halfway done on these projects. How can we just walk away from these projects before realizing the economic and environmental benefits they were designed to deliver?

I urge my colleagues to support funding for this important program. It affects 40 States plus Pacific islands.

I will submit for the RECORD a list of unfunded Federal commitments to authorized watershed projects in so many of our States.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii will be postponed.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CONAWAY) having assumed the chair, Mr. DOLD, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

(Ms. BROWN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest last night on the debate pertaining to cutting funds for children and women with the Department of Agriculture. And I'm greatly disturbed by the assertion that we should do that and cut programs for senior citizens and the disabled because of the budgetary problems that we're having here in Washington.

Yes, we're having problems; but those problems did not start 18 months ago. Those problems have been going on for a very long time. And we're making decisions. And when we voted—not I—in December to give billionaires and millionaires \$780 billion and then in June and April you say you don't have money for pension checks and you don't have money for senior citizens and you don't have money for children and babies, it's a mispriority.

And for people to get on this floor and constantly talk about the recovery and the number of jobs, well, I want to submit just for the record the number of jobs that were saved in Florida and Georgia and other places because of the Recovery Act.

HOURLY MEETING

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 28 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Thursday, June 16, 2011, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1963. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Swine Hides and Skins, Bird Trophies, and Ruminant Hides and Skins; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: APHIS-2006-0113] (RIN: 0579-AC11) received May 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1964. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Brucellosis in Swine; Add Texas to List of Validated Brucellosis-Free States [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0005] received May 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1965. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Annual Report for FY 2010 regarding the training, and its associated expenses, of U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) with friendly foreign forces, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1966. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Evaluation of the TRICARE Program for Fiscal Year 2011, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1073 note; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1967. A letter from the Secretary, Army, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding a directed quantity reduction; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1968. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Donald C. Wurster, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1969. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John T. Sheridan, United States Air